

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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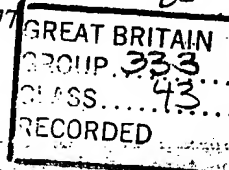
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(54) FISH HOOK EXTRACTOR

(71) I, COLIN INGRAMS of Sandy Lane Farm, Hammer, Haslemere, Surrey, formerly of "Willows", Dolphin Close, Haslemere, Surrey, a British subject, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a Patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

10 This invention relates to fish hook extractors.

One problem which arises in fishing is the extraction of hooks from fish which have been caught. The difficulty is that the hook is often lodged in relatively inaccessible parts of the fish, such as in its stomach.

The present invention seeks to provide a fish hook extractor which provides assistance in removing the fish hook from a fish even when the hook is relatively inaccessible to manual manipulation.

According to the invention, there is provided a fish hook extractor comprising a handle and coiled member attached to one end of the handle, said coiled member being adapted to engage a fish hook to permit extraction of an engaged hook from a fish.

In order that the invention shall be clearly understood, several embodiments thereof will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 shows a first embodiment of the invention;

Figures 2 and 3 show diagrammatically two stages in extracting a hook from a fish's mouth; and

Figure 4 shows a second embodiment of the invention.

Figure 1 shows the simplest form of the invention. In this case, a simple semi-rigid coil spring 10, about 1 inch long, is attached at the end of a handle 11. The handle is about 5 inches long and is of plastics material in the form of a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch A/F hexa-

gon rod. The spring 10 is attached by being held frictionally on a short circular projection 12 at the end of the handle.

In use for extracting a hook from the mouth of a fish, the line is first threaded into the spring by inserting it between the first and second coils at the free end, and the extractor is then rotated so that the line is wound progressively along the spring. The extractor is then pushed along the line until the spring engages the hook, as shown in Figure 3. If the extractor is then given another one or two twists, the hook itself is wound into the spring, thus trapping it almost rigidly. In that position the hook can be easily manipulated to disengage it from the fish's mouth or stomach to remove it.

Figure 4 shows a second, more complex form of the extractor. In this case, a semi-rigid spring 15 is mounted at the end of a hollow handle 16. The spring is retained in the hollow open end by friction. Movable within the hollow handle 16 is a plunger 17 which has a tapered spike 18 at one end and an enlarged head 19 at the other end. The position of rest of the plunger is as shown in dotted lines 20 at the right hand end in Figure 4. In this case the tapered spike 18 will be retracted into the handle. It can however be pushed by finger pressure into the position shown in full lines against the force of a compression spring 21 lying between projections on the plunger and the handle. Further movement towards the left is prevented by a projection 22 on the plunger when the point of the spike reaches the free end of the spring.

For ease of manipulation, the plunger preferably has a short lateral arm 24 which slides along a slot 25 in the wall of the handle. The slot at its left hand end has a recess extending sideways thereof into which the arm 24 may latch so as to hold the plunger in its depressed position.

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The extractor is used in the same fashion as was described with reference to Figures 2 and 3, except that once the extractor has been moved until it reaches the hook, the
5 plunger can be depressed so that it reaches the position 18' shown in dotted lines in Figure 3. In this case, the hook is held even more firmly for the purpose of extraction, the point of the hook is forced to lie
10 flush against the spring, and the barb is engaged between the turns of the spring.

In both embodiments, the spring 10, 15 may be of any suitable material, including metal or rigid plastics. The body of the extractor and the plunger in Figure 4 are preferably of plastics, and the spike 18 preferably of rubber.

The width of the helical member may be varied to suit the size of fish expected, as
20 can the length of the handle. In one form, a helical member may be provided at the end of a pencil; for sea fishing, a 1" diameter helix may be used at the end of a four foot long pole.

25 It will be appreciated that, with the above described extractor, since the extractor is guided automatically to the hook, and the hook is then held rigidly with the hook and barb at least partly shielded, it is not
30 necessary to be able to see the hook, and there is virtually no danger of the hook re-engaging itself as it is pulled out.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

35 1. A fish hook extractor comprising a handle and a coiled member attached to one end of the handle, said coiled member being adapted to engage a fish hook to permit extraction of an engaged hook from a fish.

40 2. An extractor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the coiled member comprises a

helix.

3. An extractor as claimed in Claim 2, wherein a pointed member is provided coaxially with the helix and is movable along
45 the axis between an extended position in which the point is substantially in line with the outer end of the helix and a retracted position in which the point lies spaced from the outer end of the helix. 50

4. An extractor as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the pointed member is spring urged to its retracted position.

5. An extractor as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the pointed member comprises a
55 rod with a tapered spike at one end and wherein the handle is hollow and receives the rod therein.

6. An extractor as claimed in Claim 5, wherein the rod extends through the
60 handle and protrudes from the end of the handle opposite to the helix.

7. An extractor as claimed in Claim 5 or 6, wherein the rod is provided with a lateral extension which projects through a
65 slot in the side of the handle and which is engageable with a recess at a side of said slot to hold said rod in the extended position against the action of the spring.

8. An extractor as claimed in Claim 5, 70 6 or 7, wherein at least the spike is formed of rubber or a similar flexible resilient material.

9. A fish hook extractor substantially as described with reference to the draw- 75 ings.

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION
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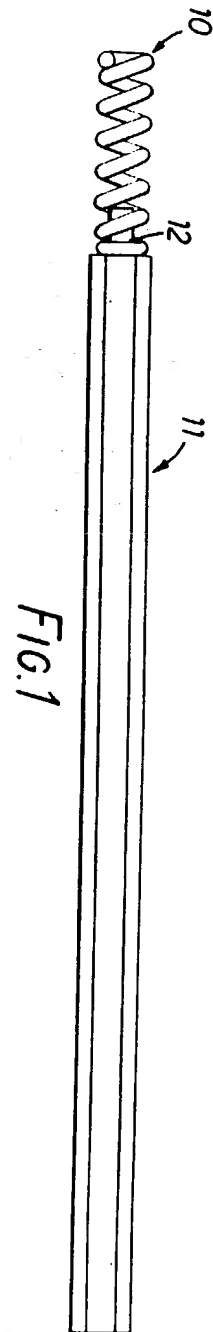


FIG. 1

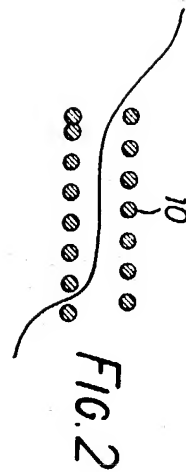


FIG. 2

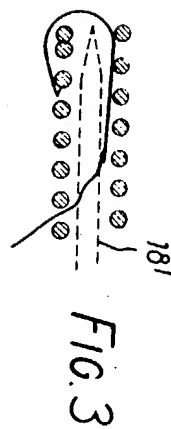


FIG. 3

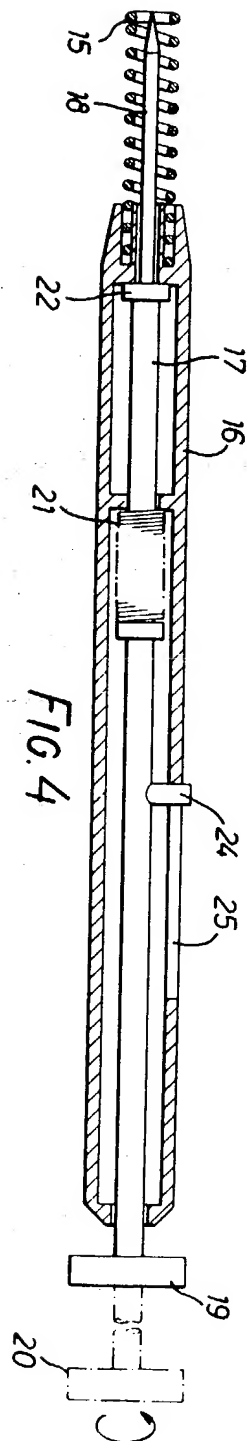


FIG. 4

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Extractor for fish hooks - comprises coil rotatable to wind up line and trap hook to facilitate its extraction

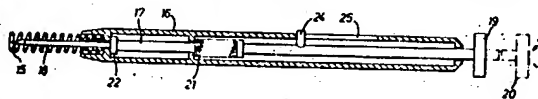
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The extractor comprises a handle (16) to one end of which is attached a coil spring (15). The spring is adapted to engage a fish hook to permit extraction of the hook from a

fish. In its simplest form the invention comprises no more than this. The line is threaded into the spring, then the extractor is rotated to wind up the line and eventually trap the hook to facilitate its removal.

Optionally, the handle (16) is hollow and contains a plunger (17) terminating in a tapered spike (18). When the line has been wound up as above, the plunger is depressed. This passes the spike along the axis of the spring to engage the hook and hold it firmly to facilitate its removal. 28.2.75. (3pp351).



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